GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:381
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005
STUDY OF INDIAN PLATE
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been revealed in a study conducted by the Scientists of National Institute of Oceanography that the tectonic plate boundaries reconfigure themselves several times and every time they separate or join, tremors are felt on the earth ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any study to find out the stress on Indian Plate triggering earthquake;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a)&(b) : Yes Sir. Scientists of the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Goa, have been studying the geophysical data of the northern Indian Ocean for understanding the evolution of the ocean basins. These studies have revealed that the plate boundaries were organized several times since the evolution of the primordial earth. The boundaries are narrow deforming zones, which also are the zones of most common occurrence of earthquake activity.

(c),(d)&(e) : Yes Sir. Several Government funded projects are being implemented in the country by National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) to make measurements of Indian Plate movements with reference to other plates using Global Positioning System (GPS). These are long-term studies using state-of-the-art techniques to understand the phenomena. This information will be used to estimate the state of stress of the Indian Plate.